
SENATE BILL 6204

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2008 Regular Session

By Senator Sheldon

Read first time 01/14/08. Referred to Committee on Water, Energy & Telecommunications.

1 AN ACT Relating to water resource inventory area 14; and amending
2 RCW 90.82.060.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 90.82.060 and 2007 c 245 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Planning conducted under this chapter must provide for a
7 process to allow the local citizens within a WRIA or multi-WRIA area to
8 join together in an effort to: (a) Assess the status of the water
9 resources of their WRIA or multi-WRIA area; and (b) determine how best
10 to manage the water resources of the WRIA or multi-WRIA area to balance
11 the competing resource demands for that area within the parameters
12 under RCW 90.82.120.

13 (2)(a) Watershed planning under this chapter may be initiated for
14 a WRIA only with the concurrence of: (i) All counties within the WRIA;
15 (ii) the largest city or town within the WRIA unless the WRIA does not
16 contain a city or town; and (iii) the water supply utility obtaining
17 the largest quantity of water from the WRIA or, for a WRIA with lands
18 within the Columbia Basin project, the water supply utility obtaining
19 from the Columbia Basin project the largest quantity of water for the

1 WRIA. To apply for a grant for organizing the planning unit as
2 provided for under RCW 90.82.040(2)(a), these entities shall designate
3 the entity that will serve as the lead agency for the planning effort
4 and indicate how the planning unit will be staffed.

5 (b) For purposes of this chapter, WRIA 40 shall be divided such
6 that the portion of the WRIA located entirely within the Stemilt and
7 Squilchuck subbasins shall be considered WRIA 40a and the remaining
8 portion shall be considered WRIA 40b. Planning may be conducted
9 separately for WRIA 40a and 40b. WRIA 40a shall be eligible for one-
10 fourth of the funding available for a single WRIA, and WRIA 40b shall
11 be eligible for three-fourths of the funding available for a single
12 WRIA.

13 (c) For purposes of this chapter, WRIA 29 shall be divided such
14 that the portion of the WRIA located entirely within the White Salmon
15 subbasin and the subbasins east thereof shall be considered WRIA 29b
16 and the remaining portion shall be considered WRIA 29a. Planning may
17 be conducted separately for WRIA 29a and 29b. WRIA 29a shall be
18 eligible for one-half of the funding available for a single WRIA and
19 WRIA 29b shall be eligible for one-half of the funding available for a
20 single WRIA.

21 (d) For purposes of this chapter, WRIA 14 shall be divided such
22 that the portion of the WRIA where surface waters drain into Hood Canal
23 shall be considered WRIA 14b, and the remaining portion shall be
24 considered WRIA 14a. Planning for WRIA 14b under this chapter shall be
25 conducted by the WRIA 16 planning unit. WRIA 14b shall be eligible for
26 one-half of the funding available for a single WRIA, and WRIA 14a shall
27 be eligible for one-half of the funding available for a single WRIA.

28 (3) Watershed planning under this chapter may be initiated for a
29 multi-WRIA area only with the concurrence of: (a) All counties within
30 the multi-WRIA area; (b) the largest city or town in each WRIA unless
31 the WRIA does not contain a city or town; and (c) the water supply
32 utility obtaining the largest quantity of water in each WRIA.

33 (4) If entities in subsection (2) or (3) of this section decide
34 jointly and unanimously to proceed, they shall invite all tribes with
35 reservation lands within the management area.

36 (5) The entities in subsection (2) or (3) of this section,
37 including the tribes if they affirmatively accept the invitation,
38 constitute the initiating governments for the purposes of this section.

1 (6) The organizing grant shall be used to organize the planning
2 unit and to determine the scope of the planning to be conducted. In
3 determining the scope of the planning activities, consideration shall
4 be given to all existing plans and related planning activities. The
5 scope of planning must include water quantity elements as provided in
6 RCW 90.82.070, and may include water quality elements as contained in
7 RCW 90.82.090, habitat elements as contained in RCW 90.82.100, and
8 instream flow elements as contained in RCW 90.82.080. The initiating
9 governments shall work with state government, other local governments
10 within the management area, and affected tribal governments, in
11 developing a planning process. The initiating governments may hold
12 public meetings as deemed necessary to develop a proposed scope of work
13 and a proposed composition of the planning unit. In developing a
14 proposed composition of the planning unit, the initiating governments
15 shall provide for representation of a wide range of water resource
16 interests.

17 (7) Each state agency with regulatory or other interests in the
18 WRIA or multi-WRIA area to be planned shall assist the local citizens
19 in the planning effort to the greatest extent practicable, recognizing
20 any fiscal limitations. In providing such technical assistance and to
21 facilitate representation on the planning unit, state agencies may
22 organize and agree upon their representation on the planning unit.
23 Such technical assistance must only be at the request of and to the
24 extent desired by the planning unit conducting such planning. The
25 number of state agency representatives on the planning unit shall be
26 determined by the initiating governments in consultation with the
27 governor's office.

28 (8) As used in this section, "lead agency" means the entity that
29 coordinates staff support of its own or of other local governments and
30 receives grants for developing a watershed plan.

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